

IN THE CLAIMS

Claim 1. (Currently amended) A display device comprising:

a light transmitting member;

a light source that irradiates said light transmitting member with light; and

a control mechanism configured to switch between total reflection and transmission a behavior of the light, incident into said light transmitting member from said light source, at an interface between said light transmitting member and an external region adjacent to said light transmitting member,

31 wherein said display device is configured to cause at least a portion of the light emitted by said light source and irradiating said light transmitting member to be output as a light component having directivity from said light transmitting member onto a scattering surface without being scattered, said scattering surface is spaced apart from said light transmitting member and said control mechanism, and said light component is used to display images.

Claim 2. (Previously amended) A device according to claim 1, wherein said control mechanism is configured to change a refractive index of said external region.

Claim 3. (Previously amended) A device according to claim 1, wherein said control mechanism comprises a transparent member opposing said light transmitting member and a moving mechanism configured to change the state of said transparent member with respect to said light transmitting member between a contact state and a separated state.

Claim 4. (Previously amended) A device according to claim 3, wherein said transparent member has elasticity, and
said moving mechanism is configured to change a contact area between said transparent member and said light transmitting member in the contact state by deforming said transparent member.

Claim 5. (Original) A device according to claim 1, wherein images are displayed by using an intensity change of light transmitted through said interface.

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Claim 6. (Original) A device according to claim 1, wherein images are displayed by using an intensity change of light totally reflected by said interface.

Claim 7. (Currently amended) A device according to claim 1, further comprising a the scattering surface that scatters output the light component output from said light transmitting member.

Claim 8. (Currently amended) A display device comprising:
a light transmitting member;
a light source that irradiates said light transmitting member with light; and
a plurality of control mechanisms arrayed on said light transmitting member and configured to switch between total reflection and transmission a behavior of light, incident into said light transmitting member from said light source, at an interface between said light transmitting member and an external region adjacent to said light transmitting member,
wherein said display device is configured to cause at least a portion of the light emitted by said light source and irradiating said light transmitting member to be output as a

light component having directivity from said light transmitting member onto a scattering surface without being scattered, said scattering surface is spaced apart from said light transmitting member and said control mechanism, and said light component is used to display images.

Claim 9. (Previously amended) A device according to claim 8, wherein each of said control mechanisms is configured to change a refractive index of said external region.

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Claim 10. (Previously amended) A device according to claim 8, wherein each of said control mechanisms comprises a transparent member opposing said light transmitting member and a moving mechanism configured to change the state of said transparent member with respect to said light transmitting member between a contact state and a separated state.

Claim 11. (Previously amended) A device according to claim 10, wherein said transparent member has elasticity, and

said moving mechanism is configured to change a contact area between said transparent member and said light transmitting member in the contact state by deforming said transparent member.

Claim 12. (Original) A device according to claim 8, wherein images are displayed by using an intensity change of light transmitted through said interface.

Claim 13. (Original) A device according to claim 8, wherein images are displayed by using an intensity change of light totally reflected by said interface.

Claim 14. (Currently amended) A device according to claim 8, further comprising a the scattering surface that scatters ~~output~~ the light component output from said light transmitting member.

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Claim 15. (Currently amended) A display device comprising:
a light transmitting member;
a light transmitting material;
a light source that irradiates said light transmitting member with light; and
a control mechanism configured to change a contact state of said light transmitting material with respect to said light transmitting member on an optical path of the light,
wherein said display device is configured to cause at least a portion of the light emitted by said light source and irradiating said light transmitting member to be output as a light component having directivity from said light transmitting member onto a scattering surface without being scattered, said scattering surface is spaced apart from said light transmitting member and said control mechanism, and said light component is used to display images.

Claim 16. (Previously amended) A device according to claim 15, wherein said control mechanism is configured to change a contact area of said light transmitting material with respect to said light transmitting member on the optical path of the light.

Claim 17. (Original) A device according to claim 15, wherein said light transmitting material is a solid.

Claim 18. (Original) A device according to claim 17, wherein said light transmitting material is an elastic material.

Claim 19. (Original) A device according to claim 15, wherein images are displayed by using an intensity change of light transmitted through an interface at which said light transmitting material is in contact with said light transmitting member.

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Claim 20. (Original) A device according to claim 15, wherein images are displayed by using an intensity change of light reflected by an interface at which said light transmitting material is in contact with said light transmitting member.

Claim 21. (Currently amended) A device according to claim 15, further comprising a the scattering surface that scatters output the light component output from said light transmitting member.

Claim 22. (Currently amended) A display device comprising:
a light transmitting member;
a light transmitting material;
a light source that irradiates said light transmitting member with light; and
a plurality of control mechanisms arrayed on said light transmitting member and configured to change a contact state of said light transmitting material with respect to said light transmitting member on an optical path of the light,

wherein said display device is configured to cause at least a portion of the light emitted by said light source and irradiating said light transmitting member to be output as a light component having directivity from said light transmitting member onto a scattering

surface without being scattered, said scattering surface is spaced apart from said light transmitting member and said control mechanism, and said light component is used to display images.

Claim 23. (Previously amended) A device according to claim 22, wherein each of said control mechanisms is configured to change a contact area of said light transmitting material with respect to said light transmitting member on the optical path of the light.

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Claim 24. (Original) A device according to claim 22, wherein said light transmitting material is a solid.

Claim 25. (Original) A device according to claim 23, wherein said light transmitting material is an elastic material.

Claim 26. (Original) A device according to claim 22, wherein images are displayed by using an intensity change of light transmitted through an interface at which said light transmitting material is in contact with said light transmitting member.

Claim 27. (Original) A device according to claim 22, wherein images are displayed by using an intensity change of light reflected by an interface at which said light transmitting material is in contact with said light transmitting member.

Claim 28. (Currently amended) A device according to claim 22, further comprising a the scattering surface that scatters output the light component output from said light transmitting member.

Claims 29-48. (Canceled).

Claim 49. (Currently amended) A display method comprising switching between total reflection and transmission a behavior of light, incident into a light transmitting member from a light source, at an interface between said light transmitting member and an external region adjacent to said light transmitting member by a control mechanism,

wherein one of light transmitted through said interface and light totally reflected by said interface is output as a light component having directivity from said light transmitting member onto a scattering surface without being scattered, said scattering surface is spaced apart from said light transmitting member and said control mechanism, and said light component is used to display images.

Claim 50. (Currently amended) A display method comprising irradiating a light transmitting member with light from a light source and changing a contact state of a light transmitting material with respect to said light transmitting member on an optical path of the light,

wherein at least a portion of the light incident into said light transmitting member from said light source is output as a light component having directivity from said light transmitting member onto a scattering surface without being scattered, said scattering surface is spaced apart from said light transmitting member and said control mechanism, and said light component is used to display images.

Claims 51-52. (Canceled).